/264 cont./

411 and terminates in offset thorn extensions. The length of the bowstring for my specimens amounts to 184-204 centimeters.

[283] The bowstring (ānzŭ, mbāŭ; according to Ehrenreich, manhūga) is made by each person for himself by twisting together three twisted imbauva fiber strings. Its strength gradually decreases from the thicker end to the other one, and it finally terminates in a thin string. Ill. 110 shows how it is attached. The bowstring proper is the strong part, which is attached so that it can be lifted off at one end. The weaker part is led from the firm bow-end along the front side of the bow-wood to approximately the center of the bow, is fastened there, and then is tightly wound around the bow, back to the bow-end. The last [531] little end hangs down freely; it often bears a feather tassel. This winding is usually rubbed with white-earth coloring. In the middle of the bow, where it begins, a maize leaf is fastened as an ornament by means of a black cotton winding. The unwound part of the bow sometimes bears black and yellow plaiting around it (Ill. 111).

The arrows. In order to give a survey of the arrows, it is advisable first of all to group them according to the shapes of the points, for the formation of this part of the arrow depends, of course, on what it is to be used for, which is, after all, the most important thing about the arrow. In addition, however, I also wish to point out other varying characteristics, some of which seem to represent ownership and tribal signs.

First of all, it should be noted that each one makes his own [436] arrows. In view of the custom of using arrows as a means of pay- [431] ment, however, and exchanging them with the chief on visits to strange villages, as well as in turn receiving some as gifts from him, arrows of the most diverse origins are assembled in the hands of one individual; nevertheless, in view of the brief life-span of the arrows, those made by each one for himself predominate. Poisoning is not customary.

Before being shot, the arrows are examined with regard to their curvature by being turned between the right hand lifted up to the right shoulder and the left hand stretched far downward. If